IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-11 (Canceled):

Claim 12 (New): An information storage medium, comprising:

an approximately plane front face and a back face, the medium configured to be read and/or written by a read and/or write device placed facing the front face,

wherein the back face includes recessed areas and all or part of sidewalls and/or a bottom of the recessed areas is covered with a magnetic deposit used for information storage, a distance separating the front face from the magnetic deposit being such that the read and/or write device can read and/or write the information in the magnetic deposit.

Claim 13 (New): An information storage medium according to claim 12, in which the back face of the medium is fixed to a substrate.

Claim 14 (New): A method for manufacturing an information storage medium according to claim 12, in which the medium is formed including the approximately plane front face, the back face, and a discrete information storage array on the back face, in a form of recessed areas provided with a magnetic deposit, each recessed area configured to contain at least one magnetic domain representing an elementary bit defined by a magnetization direction.

Claim 15 (New): A method according to claim 14, in which the back face also includes areas configured to make the medium stiff.

Claim 16 (New): A method according to claim 14, in which the magnetic deposit is formed in the bottom of the recessed areas using a beam of atoms of at least one magnetic material directed onto the back face of the medium, perpendicular to the back face.

Claim 17 (New): A method according to claim 14, in which the magnetic deposit is formed on all or part of the sidewalls of the recessed areas using a beam of atoms of at least one magnetic material directed onto the back face of the medium, oblique to the back face.

Claim 18 (New): A method according to claim 14, in which the medium includes a substrate and the recessed areas are formed directly in the substrate.

Claim 19 (New): A method according to claim 14, in which the medium comprises a first layer and a second layer formed on the first layer, and wherein the recessed areas are formed through the second layer such that the bottom of the recessed areas is formed by the first layer.

Claim 20 (New): A method according to claim 14, in which the recessed areas are formed by etching through an etching mask previously formed on the back face, the magnetic deposit is then formed and the etching mask is eliminated including the magnetic deposit located on it due to formation of the magnetic deposit.

Claim 21 (New): A method according to claims 14, in which the back face of the medium is fixed to an auxiliary substrate, the medium being provided with recessed areas comprising the magnetic deposit.

Claim 22 (New): A method according to claim 14, in which a first layer is formed on a substrate, a second layer is formed on the first layer, and a third layer is formed on the second layer, the recessed areas are formed through the third layer such that the bottom of the recessed areas is formed by the second layer, the magnetic deposit is formed in the recessed areas, the second layer is separated from the substrate, and the recessed areas are closed off by a fourth layer.